

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 304379

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, CA, US

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON COMMON BORDER STATIONS

REFS: A) OTTAWA 4618; B) STATE 230909

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT APPROPRIATE OFFICER IN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS ORALLY IN RESPONSE TO LETTER CONTAINED REF A.

2. THE US INTENTION EMBODIED IN REF B WAS TO HAVE BROAD CONSULTATIONS TO EXAMINE FRANKLY AND FULLY THE POSSIBILITIES FOR ENHANCED COOPERATION AT OUR BORDER POSTS. WE THINK IT POSSIBLE TO EFFECT COST SAVINGS AND INCREASE EFFICIENCY BY CLOSE COOPERATION WHICH MIGHT BE LIMITED TO THE PROVISION OF UTILITY SERVICES OR MIGHT EXTEND TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF SHARED FACILITIES. SHOULD THE TWO GOVERNMENTS DECIDE TO PROCEED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF COMMON BORDER STATIONS ON THE FRONTIER, WE WOULD, OF COURSE, SEEK THE CONCURRENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME AND PROCEED CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE DOMESTIC LAW.

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3. DESPITE THE CANADIAN RELUCTANCE DEMONSTRATED IN REF A

THE US IS STILL INTERESTED IN HAVING A MEETING EVEN IF ONLY
TO ASSESS THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH

THE JOINT PROVISION, WITH APPROPRIATE REIMBURSEMENT, OF
UTILITY SERVICES TO CERTAIN REMOTE BORDER STATION LOCATIONS,
OR ANY OTHER ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT BE TAKEN TO EITHER INCREASE
THE EFFICIENCY OR REDUCE THE COSTS OF OUR BORDER CONTROL
POINTS.

4. AFTER PROVIDING THE ABOVE BACKGROUND, EMBASSY IS RE-
QUESTED TO SUGGEST THAT CONSULTATIONS BE HELD IN JANUARY
EITHER IN THE US OR IN OTTAWA. A CANADIAN VIEW IS REQUESTED
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. KISSINGER

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